



Arizona Telemedicine Program

Purpose

In Spring 1995, House Bill 2275 allocated \$250,000 per year of Tobacco Tax revenues to establish a telemedicine program designed to facilitate provision of medical services to low income, indigent or uninsured persons living in medically underserved areas.

In 1996 the Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA) received funding from the Arizona Telemedicine Program "NARBHA NET" that helped develop a telemedicine system that was recognized as a "Program of Excellence" and one of the Top Ten telemedicine programs in the nation by the Telemedicine and Telehealth Networks Magazine.

Currently, the Arizona Telemedicine Program funds projects at the University of Arizona, Rural Health Office and at the ADHS Office of Children with Special Health Care Needs.

Need

- To develop and strengthen community based systems and services, and expand access to primary care services to Arizona residents who reside in medically underserved areas.

Services

University of Arizona – Rural Health Office – Mobile Health Program:

- Interfaces with the Arizona Telemedicine Program to provide access to health care, eye and foot screenings for persons with diabetes in geographically underserved areas, as a strategy to improve clinical outcomes.

Office of Children with Special Health Care Needs:

- Through the OCSHCN/CRS Regional Tele-medicine Network, Increases access to comprehensive care for children and youth with special health care needs especially those in rural and underserved areas.
- Provides educational opportunities to health care providers, children, and youth with special health care needs and their families, and to community organizations.

Highlights:

The Mobile Health Program enhances the ability of the Arizona Primary Care Program to provide standards of care for patients with diabetes by making the Arizona telemedicine program available to communities served by the following clinics:

- Marana Community Health Center
- Pinal County Health Department
- Morenci Community Health Center
- Chiracahua Community Health Center

Contact Us:

Arizona Telemedicine Program
Office of Health Systems Development
AZ Department of Health Services
1740 West Adams Suite 410
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
602-542-1219